

Iron Indian Riders Monthly Ride 1 Oct 2017

Calder Park to Tallarook via Lancefield.



Well its "X" days to Xmas , Daylight savings started to Day, The Tigers won the Grand Final the weather is brisk but no rain and I am allowed out of the house. Could it get much better than this?

Sure can, when you ask Richard Onyon to lead a ride you can be guaranteed great back roads, good views and a destination that has food as good as mothers cooking.

12 rider's lines up at BP Calder Park ready for a run. The departure was held up for 25 minutes while we waited for a couple who did not understand what happens with daylight saving. All bikes were moderns so the speed was set at the speed limits in the area. Nice range of Indians attended, 4 Scouts, 3 Chiefs, 1 Gilroy, the obligatory Drifter, the Panzer Tank and a Harley.

With Richard champing at the bit we decided to take off leaving a message for one of the late comers to meet us in Lancefield.

Off we went towards Sunbury turning of at Moore Road. Moore road circumnavigates Sunbury and leads you on some nice back roads that are good condition and tree lined. Not much traffic on the road allowed a reasonable turn of speed. Moore Road runs parallel to the Calder Freeway and is definitely a better road to follow than mix it with the tin tops on the Calder. Some nice gentle bends then up to Mitchells Lane and being in the outskirts of suburbia it was geed to hang a left and onto Reservoir Rd onto Berrie Road, Mt Eliza Rd, to Kerrie Valley Road. All roads tree lined. Spring was in the air and all trees were starting to blossom the road was superb and views typical of our great Australian Landscape. The group started to get strung out but Richard regroup every one when we got to the Romsey Road. Corner marking was working very well and everyone spent a bit of time at a corner waiting for Captain Slow. Romsey Rd to Rochford Road slowed us down a bit but once onto Rochford Road a few found their throttles and opened them up for a blast on a road that allowed a good turn of speed, gentle bends, good surface and again good scenery.

Other than the scenery not a lot was happening along the road except for a paddock of VWs slowly maturing just past Newman, possibly waiting to grow into Porches? Speed seemed to be about 100 to 110 kph , group settled in and enjoying the ride. Imagine my surprise that while enjoying the scenery and the ride a Panzer Tank suddenly appeared in my rear view mirrors and about to attack my rear end at 120kph, certainly woke me out of my dull drums to make sure he did not overtake me, how embarrassing would that be!

Next came the 80k signs and we all slowed for the entry to Lancefield, again well corned marked as we went the back streets to the Bakery in the main street of Lancefield. Just as we pulled up Mr White turned up on his Big Valve A10 discussing the foibles of drinking red wine, daylight saving and loosing the jet block out of a Monobloc in the main road. Found and refitted jet and almost beat us to Lancefield. Good to have him on board.

All bikes arrived together and lined up outside the bakery which served a reasonable coffee but a mean sausage roll. After a bit of a feed, a whistle stop it was time to head for Tallarook. (note to self to replace the fly in my wet weather gear as it appeared obvious that it was not functioning.)

All grouped together and a hard left onto the Melb Lancefield Rd for a short run before we did a sharp right to take the Pyalong Road. This road is magic, slow sweeping bands, beautiful scenery and not much traffic. The rocks on the side of the road look majestic as they overlook the plains below, well worth a slower ride to take it all in. Only thing you have to look out for on this road is errant drivers in Hyundai's who want to see the view on your side of the road. Luckily they woke up in time.

After a spirited run we entered Tallarook which was busy with its market day. A few classic cars around and as we pulled into the Café that Richard and Owen highly recommended imagine our surprise when Ken Owen road up on his 1942 Indian Scout 30/40. A real pretty little bike, and ticked over like a swiss watch, great to see Ken, thanks for joining us.

The Café was ready for us and put on a great meal, friendly service and nice old 1950s ambience. A nice touch was the young lass serving us (Young for me) who called us luv or darl, always gets my attention. After a great lunch, lots of discussion we eventually prised ourselves out of the Café to head for home, some heading for Yea, others down the freeway and for Owen and Linda just around the corner.

Thanks Richard for a great ride, always good to get out with a bunch of guys who like a good feed as well as a good ride.

Riders were –

Chris Horner – new 2016 Scout

Phil Pilgrim – new 2015 Scout

Sandy Barthelmie – new 2015 Scout

Ken Hager – new 2015 Scout

Mark Barthelmie – 2047 Dark Horse Chief

Chris Criddle – new 2017 Roadmaster (with half a merino sheep skin on the seat.)

Alistair Piercy – 2015 Chief

Richard Onyon –2000 Gilroy Silver Cloud on full song.

Owen and Linda – Panzer Tank aka BMW

Peter Kime – 1999 Drifter

Rob Hadden – Harley (2016 nice looking ride)

Ken Owen – 1936 30/50 Junior Scout

Phil White –1959 BSA A10 Big Valve